



U.S. Department of Justice

*United States Attorney
District of Maryland
Northern Division*

*Thomas M. DiBiagio
United States Attorney*

*Vickie E. LeDuc
Public Information Officer*

*6625 United States Courthouse
101 West Lombard Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21201-2692*

*410-209-4800
TTY/TDD: 410-962-4462
410-209-4885
FAX 410-962-3091
Vickie.LeDuc@usdoj.gov*

**SEPTEMBER 26, 2003
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:
VICKIE E. LEDUC, AUSA
(410) 209-4885**

**DISTRICT HEIGHTS MAN SENTENCED TO 130 MONTHS
FOR ARMED BANK ROBBERY**

Greenbelt, Maryland - United States Attorney Thomas M. DiBiagio announced that U.S. District Judge Alexander Williams, Jr. sentenced Gregg Lamont Smith, age 32, of District Heights, Maryland today to 130 months in prison followed by 3 years of supervised release arising from Smith's July 14, 2003 conviction by a federal jury for conspiracy to commit armed bank robbery, armed bank robbery and use of a firearm during a crime of violence. Judge Williams also ordered that Smith make restitution of \$20,117 to the Bank of America.

Following a 5 month investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation field offices in Calverton, Maryland and Washington, DC, Smith was indicted on October 2, 2002 for his involvement in a bank robbery conspiracy along with co-defendants Willie Lawson, age 27 and Lawson's brother, David Obrian Smith, age 22 (no relation to Gregg Smith) and Shawndel Barnes, age 24, of Washington, DC. Each co-defendant had connections to the Alpine Street neighborhood of District Heights, Maryland. Lawson was found guilty after a jury trial in April and was sentenced on July 7, 2003 to 57 years in prison. David Obrian Smith pled guilty on March 28, 2003 and is awaiting sentencing. Shawndell Barnes was arrested in Myrtle Beach, South Carolina in May 2003

and is scheduled for trial on November 4, 2003.

Gregg Smith was found guilty of joining a conspiracy that included two armed robberies. According to trial testimony Gregg Smith, a bus driver for the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority, suggested the robbery of a Bank of America branch at 3413 Kennilworth Avenue, Hyattsville, Maryland on February 12, 2002. Gregg Smith drove David Smith and Lawson to the bank, entered and cased the bank, provided his firearm to Lawson and acted as the getaway driver for David Smith and Lawson, who entered the bank and stole \$20,112 at gunpoint. During the sentencing hearing, Judge Williams said that despite being outside of the bank at the time of the robbery, Gregg Smith played a “significant role” in the conspiracy.

Also according to trial testimony, Gregg Smith provided a firearm used in a December 13, 2001 robbery of a Bank of America branch at 4821 Marlboro Pike, Capitol Heights, Maryland where \$15,690 was stolen. Gregg Smith also assisted David Smith and Lawson in opening teller drawers taken from a BB&T bank on December 27, 2001.

The jury also heard evidence that during the investigation, Gregg Lamont Smith provided the FBI with information about Greg “Homer” Smith, another Alpine Street neighbor who is wanted by the FBI for a 2002 bank robbery in the District of Columbia. Greg “Homer” Smith should be considered armed and dangerous. Persons with information regarding Greg “Homer” Smith are asked to contact the FBI in Washington, DC.

This case was investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney James C. Howard.